



2016 DISTRICT PROFILE

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California (CACB) is the largest bankruptcy court in the United States. With jurisdiction over seven counties, the Central District covers approximately 40,000 square miles. The Central District is comprised of five divisions: Los Angeles, Northern, Riverside, San Fernando Valley, and Santa Ana. The Court serves the residents of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura Counties.

POPULATION 19,417,079

BANKRUPTCY FILINGS 41,399

Chapter 7 30,403

Chapter 13 10,555

Chapter 11 433

Chapter 12 8

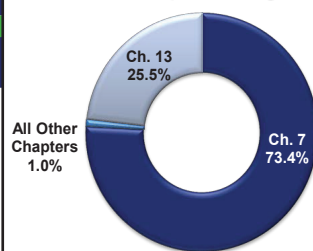
PRO SE FILINGS 9,943

JUDGES 28

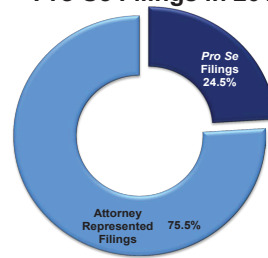
Authorized: 24

Recalled: 4

2016 Chapter Filings

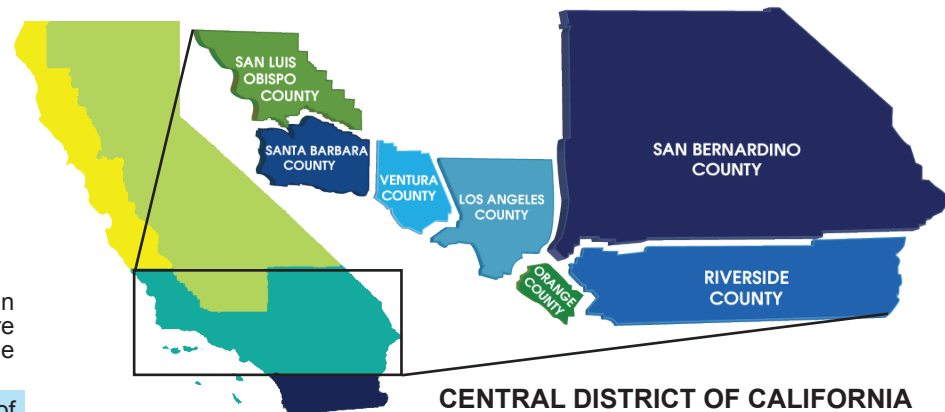


Pro Se Filings in 2016



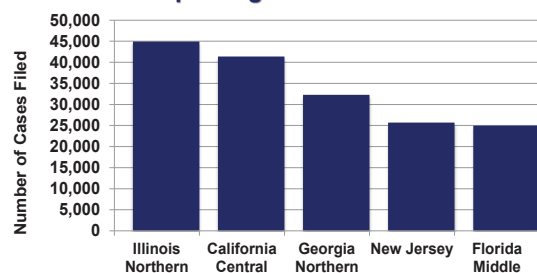
CACB received the most *pro se* filings in the nation. In 2016, *pro se* bankruptcy filings in the Central District were more than double that of the second-ranked court, the Northern District of Illinois, which had 4,115.

In 2016, CACB had the second highest number of bankruptcy filings (41,399), behind the national leader, Illinois-Northern (44,937), and before the third-ranked court, Georgia-Northern (32,302).



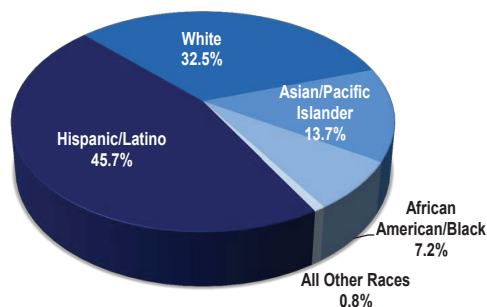
Of the five issues that are the focus of the Court's Strategic Plan, Issue 2 is to provide access to justice and service to the public. To this end, the Central District has adopted a number of programs aimed at expanding outreach, improving access to bankruptcy services, and informing the public of Court rules and procedures.

Top Filing Districts in 2016



Race & Ethnicity Demographics

July 1, 2016 estimates

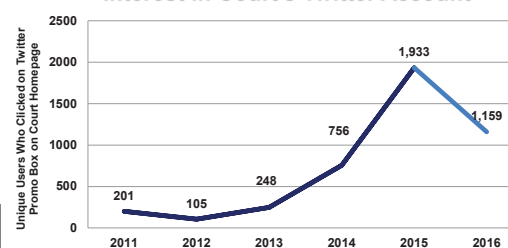


County	Population Estimates July 1, 2016	Median Household Income (2011-2015)	Unemployment Rate April 2016
Los Angeles	10,137,915	\$56,196	5.0%
Orange	3,172,532	\$76,509	3.9%
Riverside	2,387,741	\$56,603	5.7%
San Bernardino	2,140,096	\$53,433	5.5%
Ventura	849,738	\$77,348	4.7%
Santa Barbara	446,170	\$63,985	4.5%
San Luis Obispo	282,887	\$60,691	3.9%

INCOME & POVERTY (DISTRICT AVERAGES)

Unemployment Rate (July 2016)	4.9%
	4.7% U.S.
Median Household Income (2011-15)	\$63,538
	\$53,889 U.S.
Persons In Poverty Rate (2015)	15.9%
	13.5% U.S.
Price of Goods - Annual % Change in Consumer Price Index (2011-15)	+1.6%
	1.7% U.S.

Interest in Court's Twitter Account



Court's Twitter Account: CACB published its first tweet to its official Twitter account in February 2011. With over 3,400 tweets covering court news, useful tips, and estate sale information, interest in the CACB Twitter page continues.

Call Center - The Court's call center handles a high volume of inquiries about e-filing and general information. During the 12 month period ending December 31, 2016, the Court received 140 calls per business day on average.

Chat Live! 9am-4pm PST
Online

Live Chat Support - On the CACB Court website, debtors may send a chat message to a live representative. From January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, the system received a total of 2,433 chat requests, averaging approximately 10 chat requests per business day.



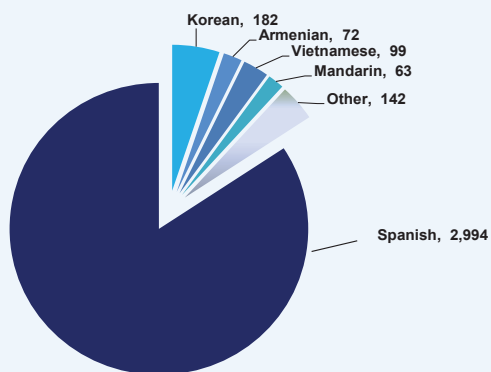
DeBN is an electronic noticing program which saves money, reduces paper waste, and improves communication with debtors. To date, more than 3,733 debtors have signed up for this cost-efficient program.



2016 *Pro Se* Filers

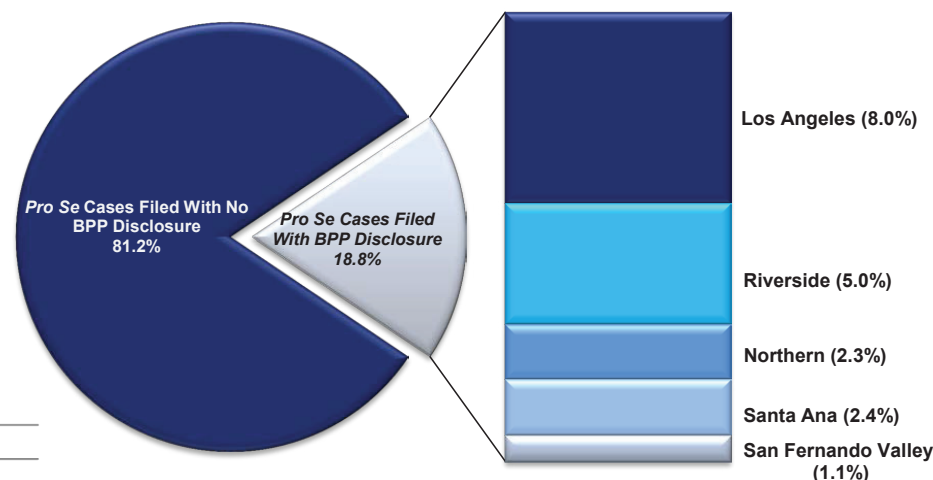
The U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California's (CACB) unique volume of self-represented (*pro se*) bankruptcy proceedings places exceptional demands on this Court. In 2016, a total of 69,266 *pro se* bankruptcy petitions were filed nationally, of which CACB accounted for over 14 percent with 9,943 *pro se* matters filed in its seven densely populated counties. Of these CACB *pro se* cases, over half were dismissed in the same year, a notably high rate compared to the 9 percent dismissal rate among attorney-represented debtors.

U.S. Trustee Program
Language Assistance Summary Statistics for 2016



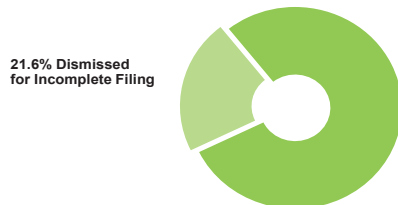
Self-represented debtors create a great need for language assistance services. The high volume of non-English speaking individuals in the CACB region presents a challenge in providing Court accessibility and services, particularly for debtors without an attorney. In 2016, requests at meetings of creditors for foreign language interpretation services were made for over 30 different languages, with Spanish being requested most often.

Bankruptcy Petition Preparers (BPPs) Disclosed in
Pro Se Bankruptcy Cases Filed in 2016

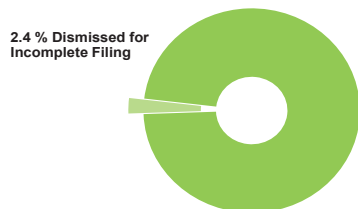


Rather than hiring a lawyer, many *pro se* debtors are filing their bankruptcy cases with the assistance of Bankruptcy Petition Preparers (BPPs): non-attorneys whose fees to prepare documents are limited by statute. However, criminal instances of BPPs practicing law, avoiding disclosure in the petition, and overcharging are not uncommon within the Central District, to the detriment of many *pro se* debtors and their bankruptcy cases.

Pro Se Cases in 2016

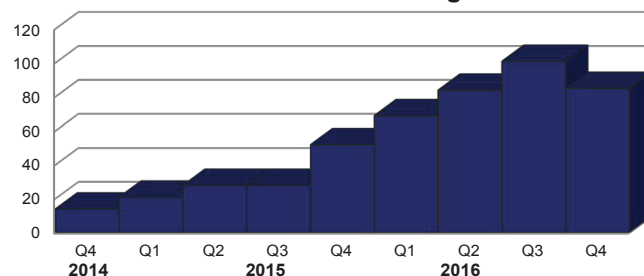


Non-*Pro Se* Cases in 2016



Pro se debtors are at a much higher risk of having document filing deficiencies result in a dismissal. Based on CACB internal case closings data for 2016, 21.6% of *pro se* debtors had their cases dismissed for incomplete filing, while only 2.4% of represented debtors received incomplete filing dismissals.

Number of Cases Filed Using eSR



Available to *pro se* debtors through the CACB website, the eSR program enables users to prepare and submit chapter 7 petitions electronically – a feature being increasingly used by debtors. With 339 cases filed through eSR in 2016, the total number of chapter 7 bankruptcy cases filed in eSR has more than doubled since it was made available in September 2014.

Self-Help Desks: Due to the Central District's large number of low-income individuals in need of representation, each CACB division offers a self-help desk staffed by *pro bono* volunteer attorneys to provide legal services. In 2016, the self-help desks received nearly 5,000 visits from people considering bankruptcy and seeking legal advice.

Individuals Assisted by Help Desk in 2016

